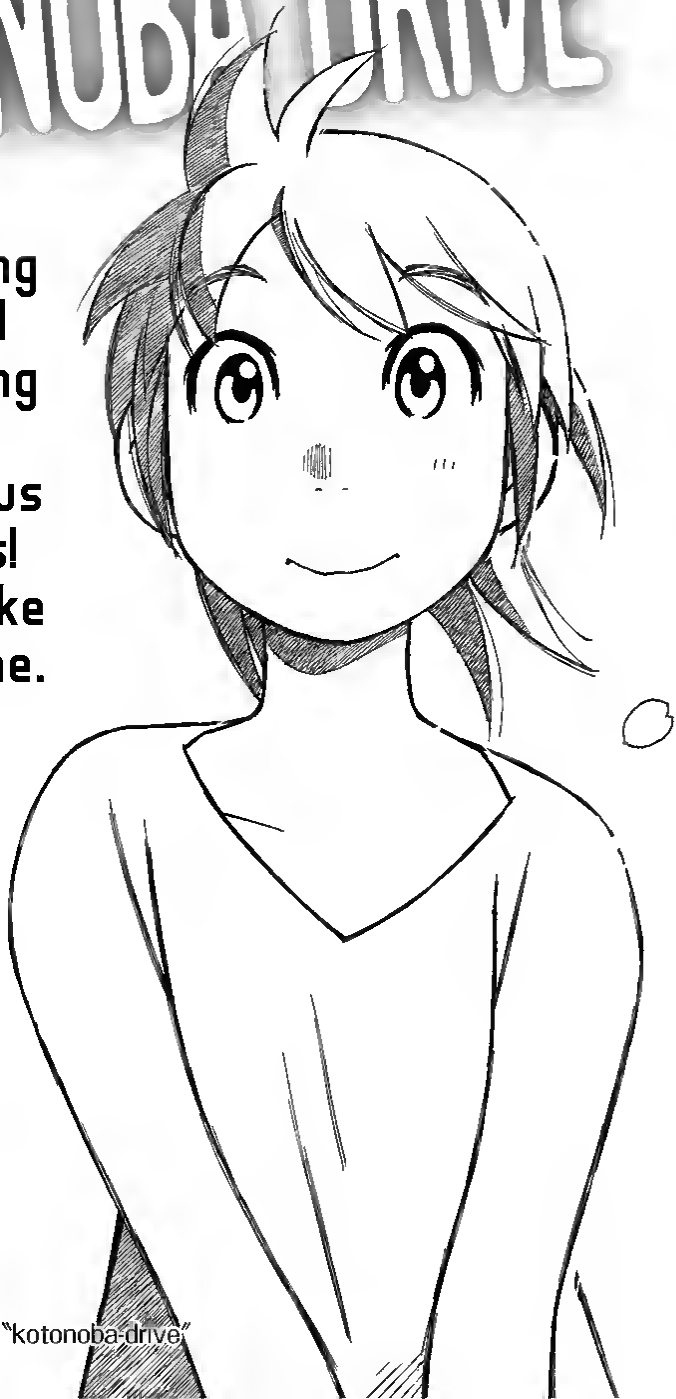
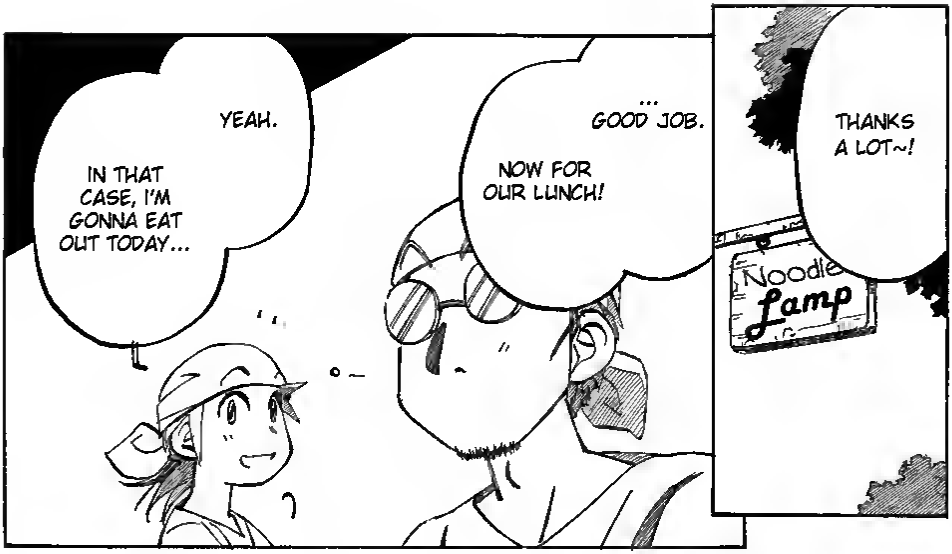
KOTONOBA DRIVE

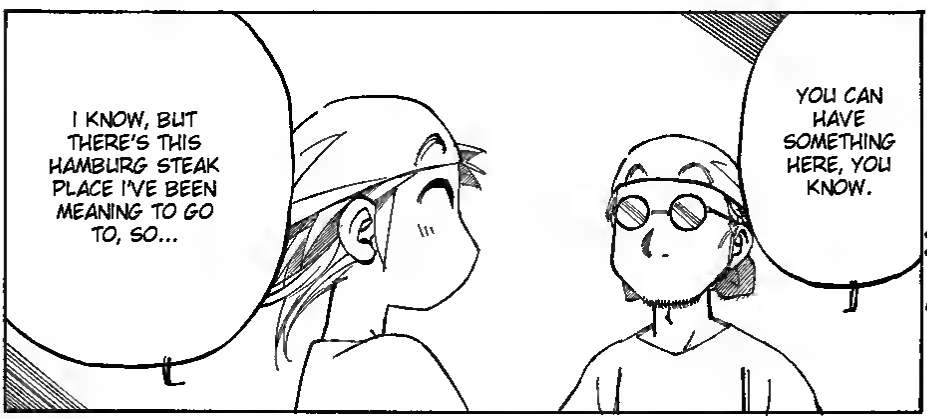


Tankobon volumes 1 and 2 are selling gloriously!

route 26
[Lunchtime]

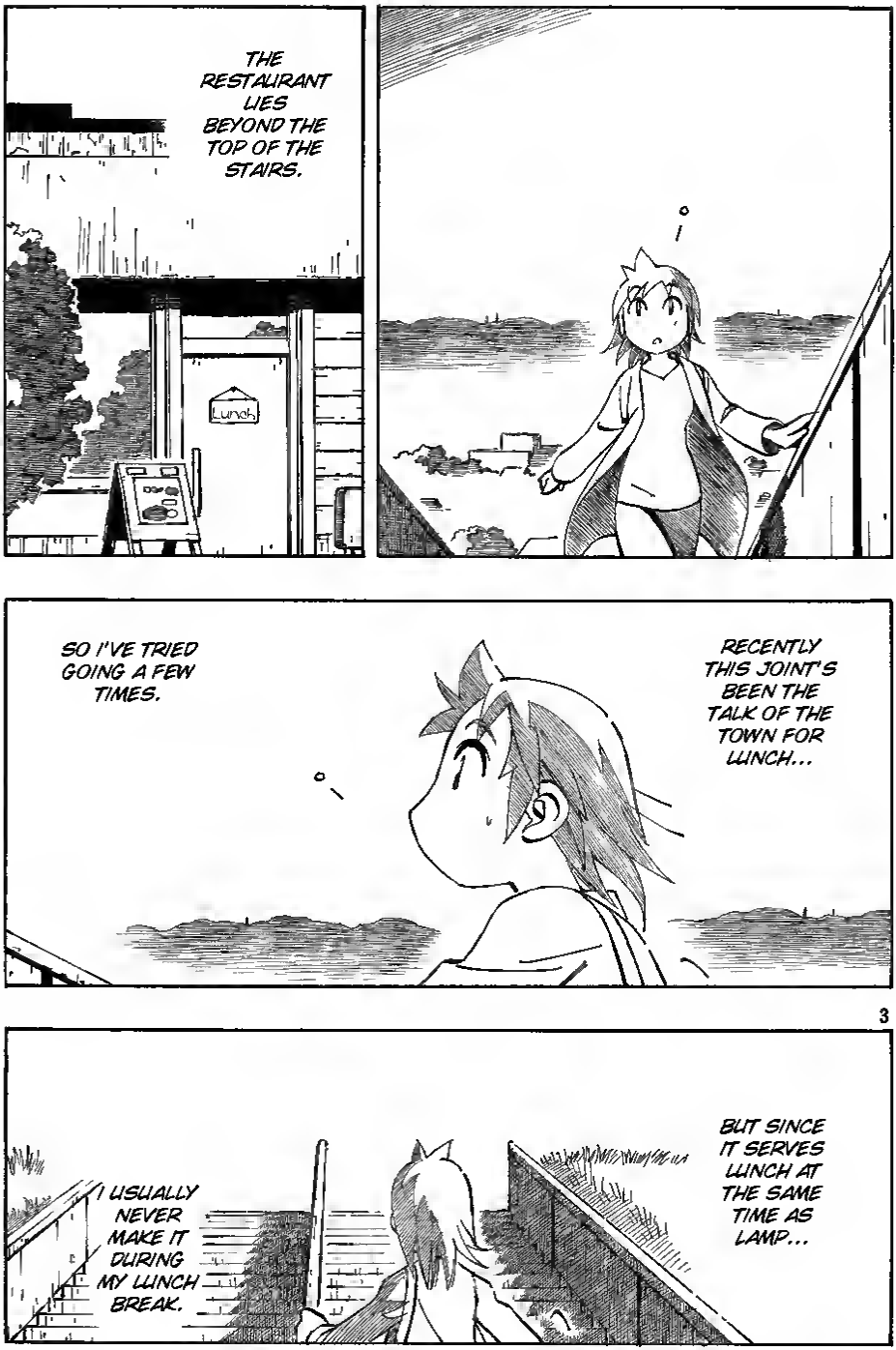
hitoshi ashinano presents "kotonoba-drive"

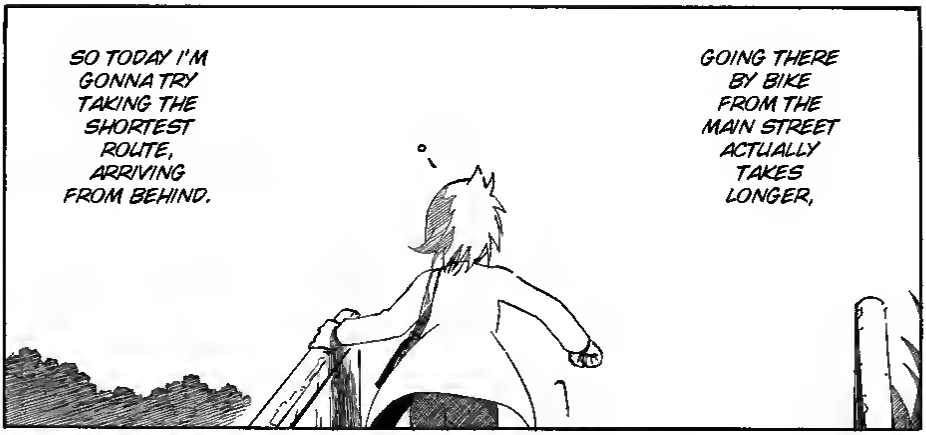


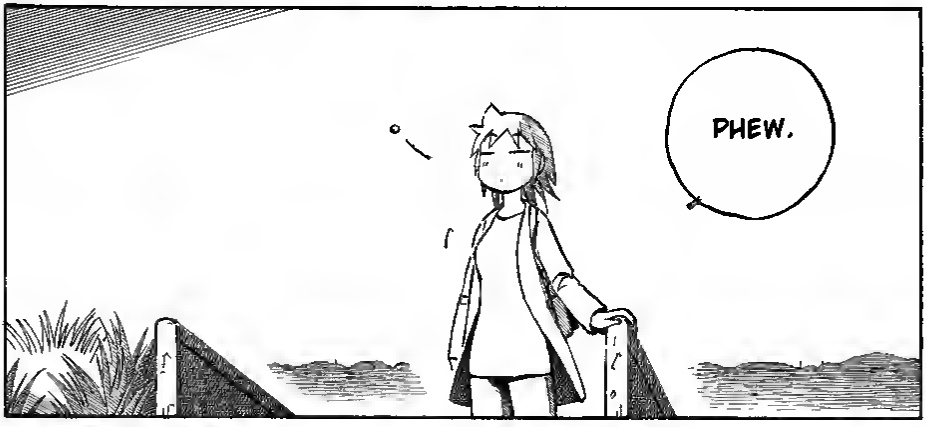


2

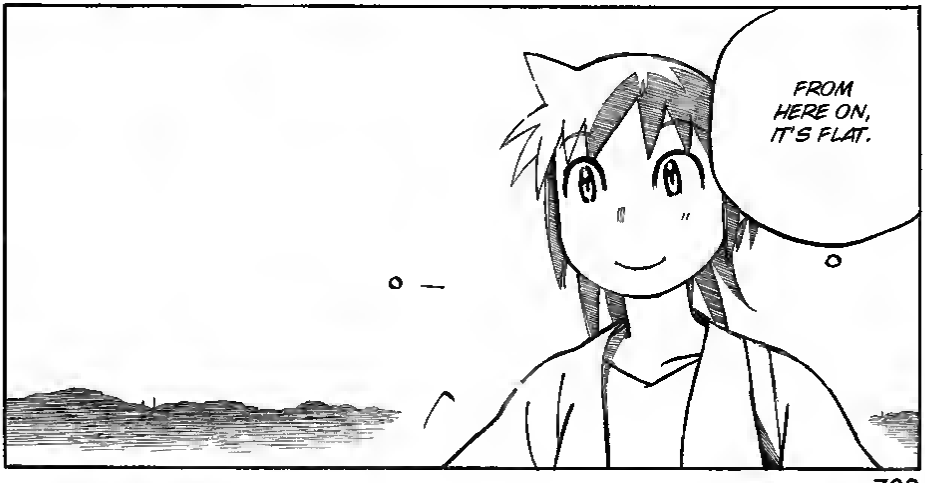
Suu-chan is skipping the favorite part of her shift...!?

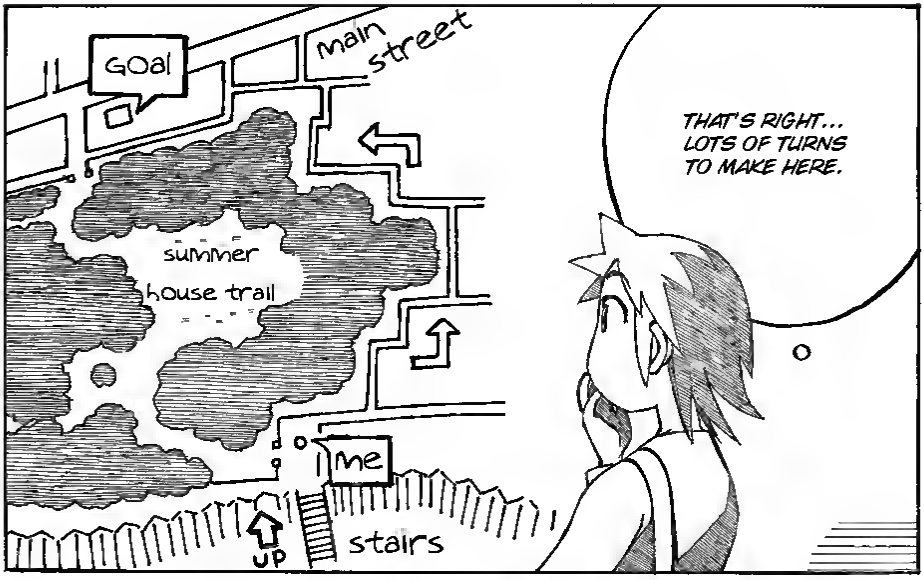

THE RESTAURANT LIES BEYOND THE TOP OF THE STAIRS.
Lunch
!
SO I'VE TRIED GOING A FEW TIMES.
RECENTLY THIS JOINT'S BEEN THE TALK OF THE TOWN FOR LUNCH...
3
I USUALLY NEVER MAKE IT DURING MY LUNCH BREAK.
BUT SINCE IT SERVES LUNCH AT THE SAME TIME AS LAMP...

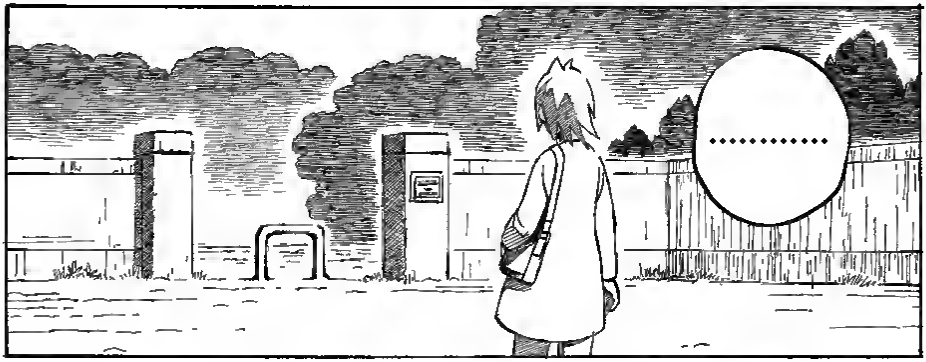

SO TODAY I'M GONNA TRY TAKING THE SHORTEST ROUTE, ARRIVING FROM BEHIND.
GOING THERE BY BIKE FROM THE MAIN STREET ACTUALLY TAKES LONGER,


PHEW.

4

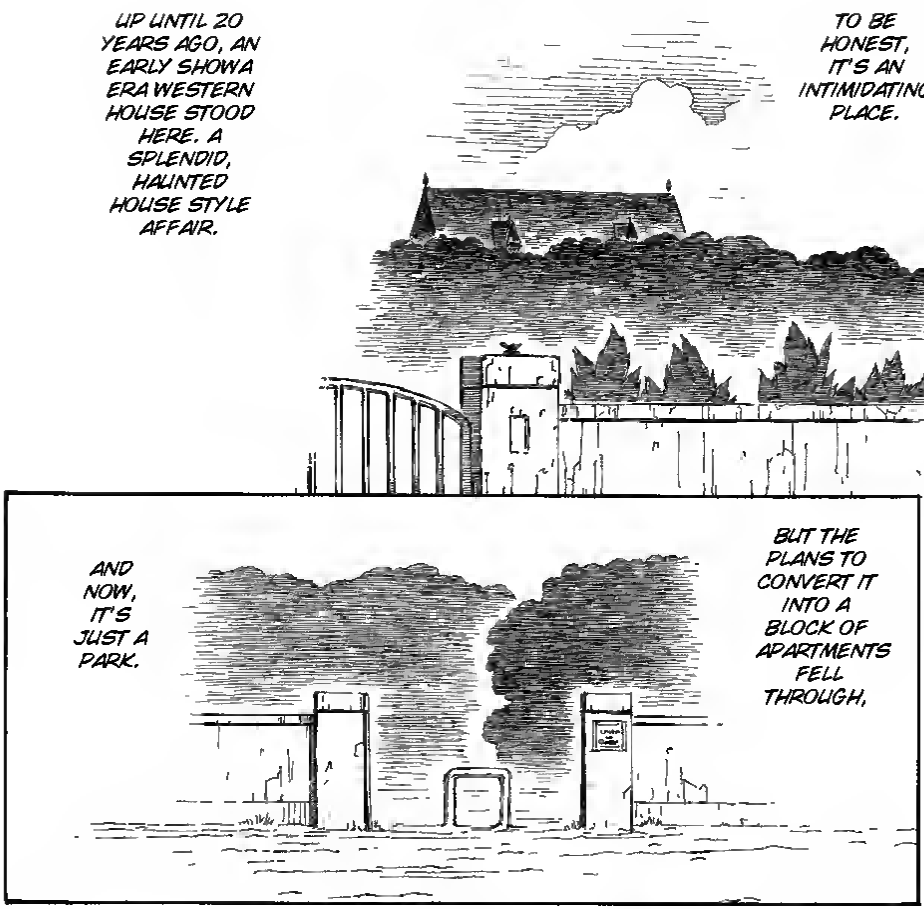

FROM HERE ON, IT'S FLAT.


GOal
main street
summer house trail
me
stairs
UP
THAT'S RIGHT... LOTS OF TURNS TO MAKE HERE.


.....

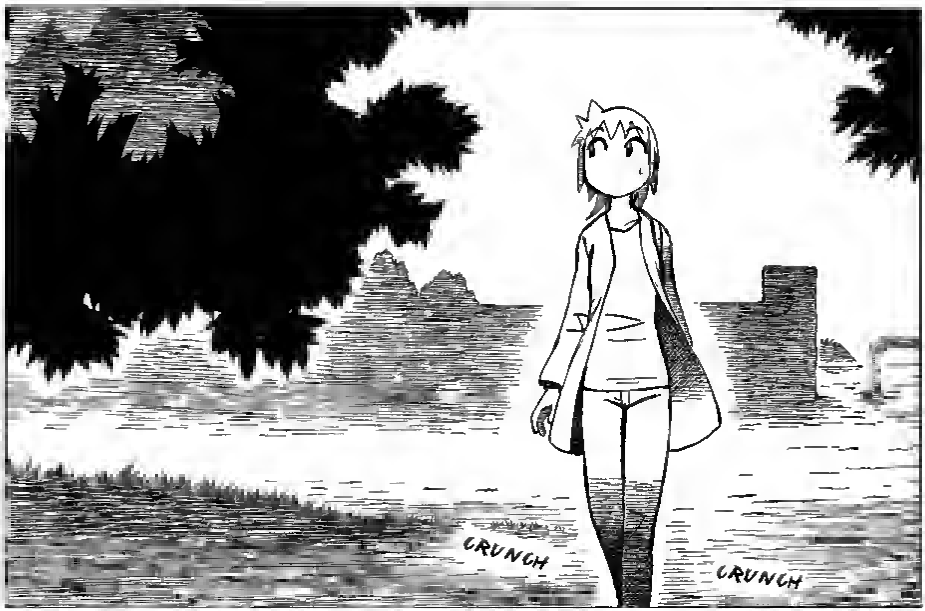
5

I WAS THINKING I COULD MAKE IT THROUGH THE SUMMER HOUSE TRAIL.

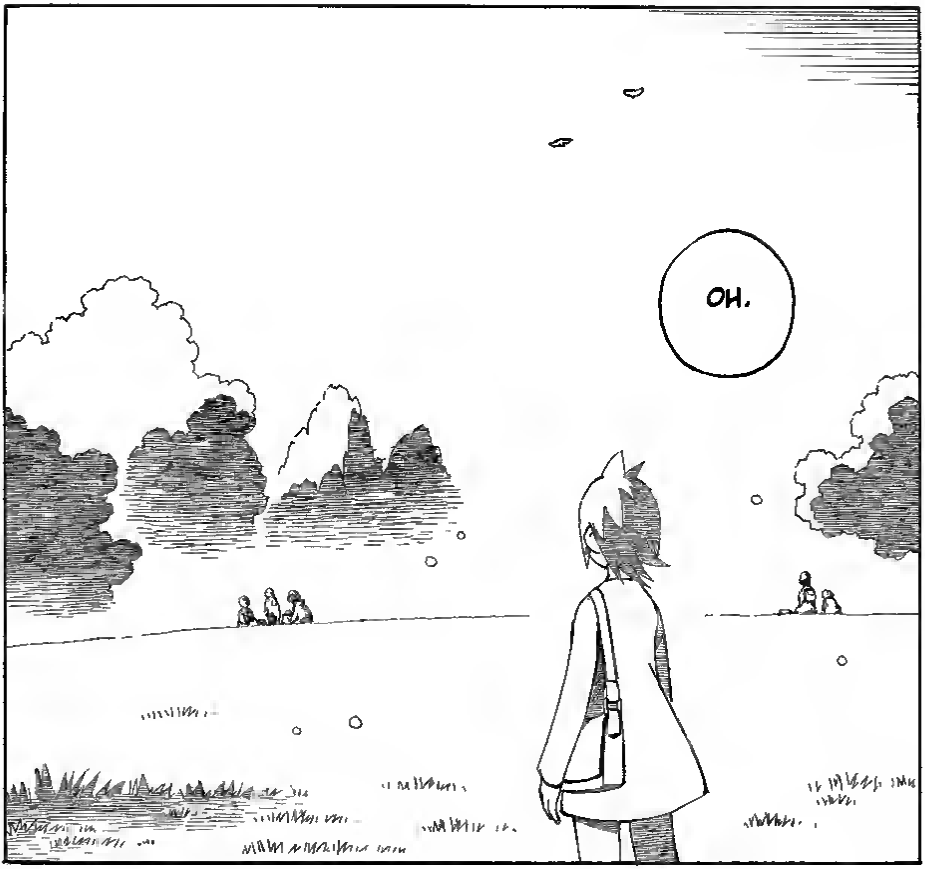

UP UNTIL 20 YEARS AGO, AN EARLY SHOWA ERA WESTERN HOUSE STOOD HERE. A SPLENDID, HAUNTED HOUSE STYLE AFFAIR.
TO BE HONEST, IT'S AN INTIMIDATING PLACE.
AND NOW, IT'S JUST A PARK.
BUT THE PLANS TO CONVERT IT INTO A BLOCK OF APARTMENTS FELL THROUGH,

6

BUT THERE'S SOME KINDA WEIRD SPOT HERE.
I'LL TRY GOING THROUGH!



7



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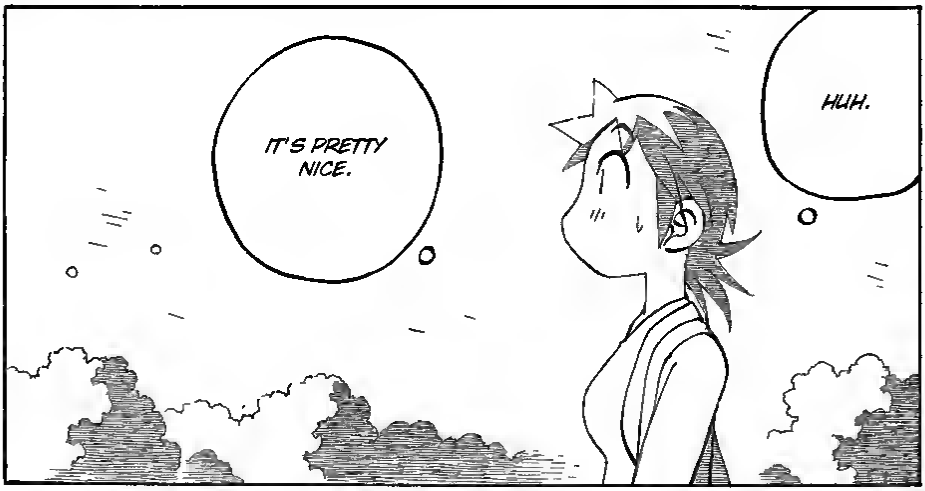
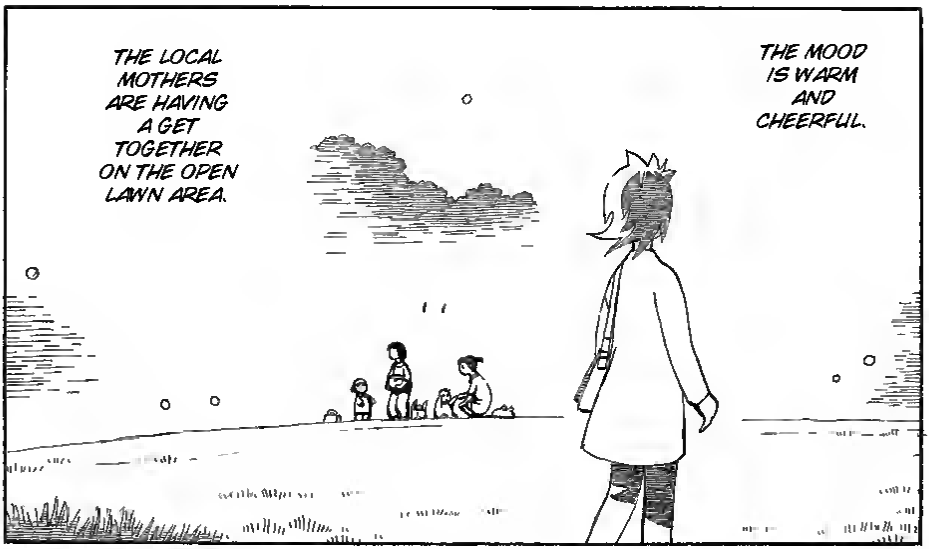
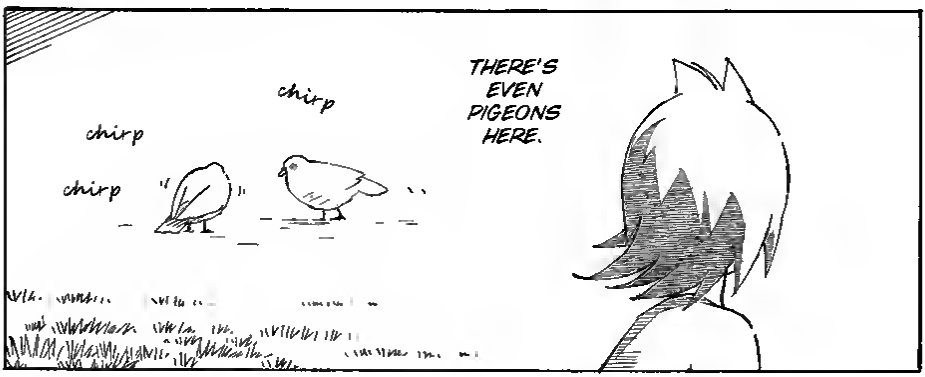
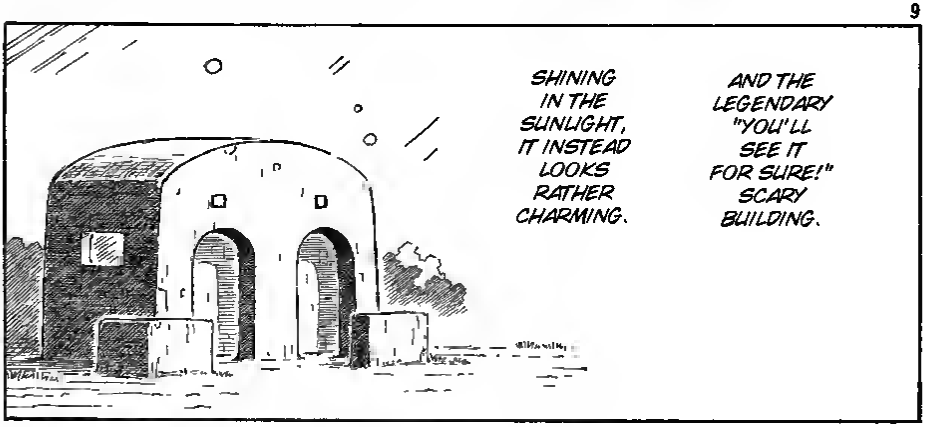


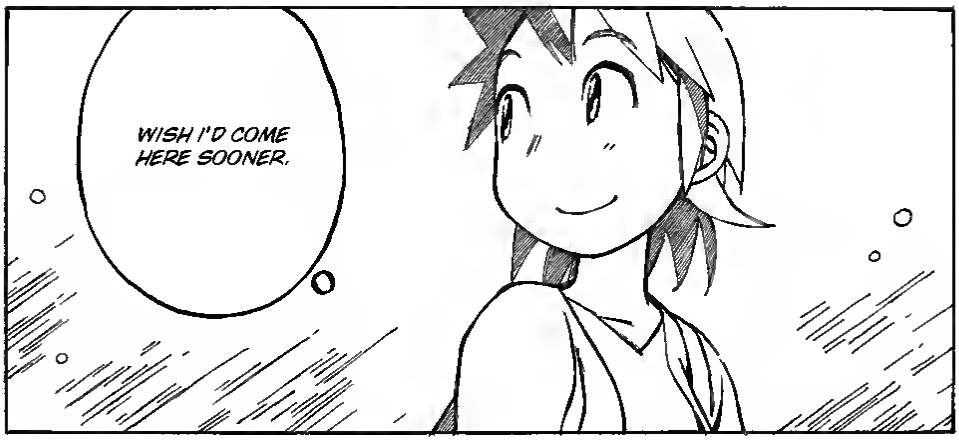

THE LOCAL MOTHERS ARE HAVING A GET TOGETHER ON THE OPEN LAWN AREA.
THE MOOD IS WARM AND CHEERFUL.

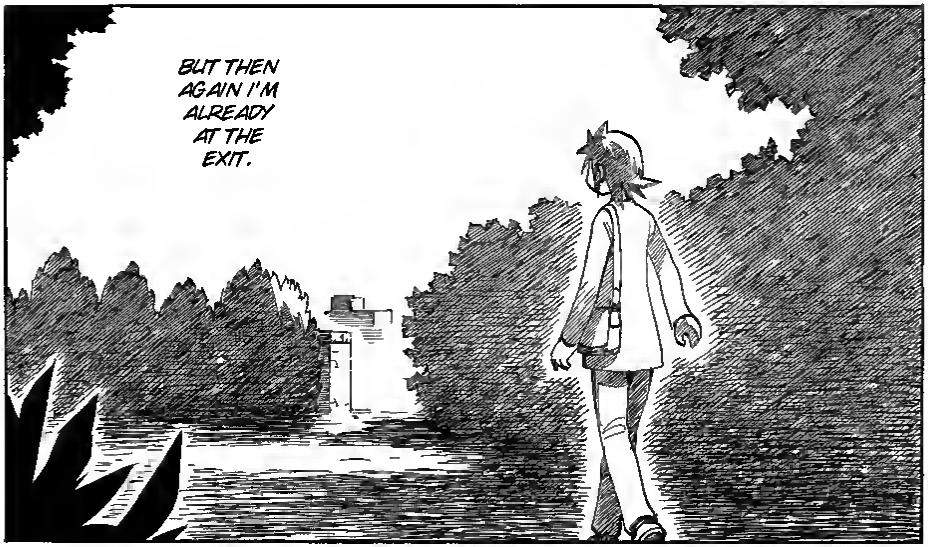

chirp
chirp
chirp
THERE'S EVEN PIGEONS HERE.

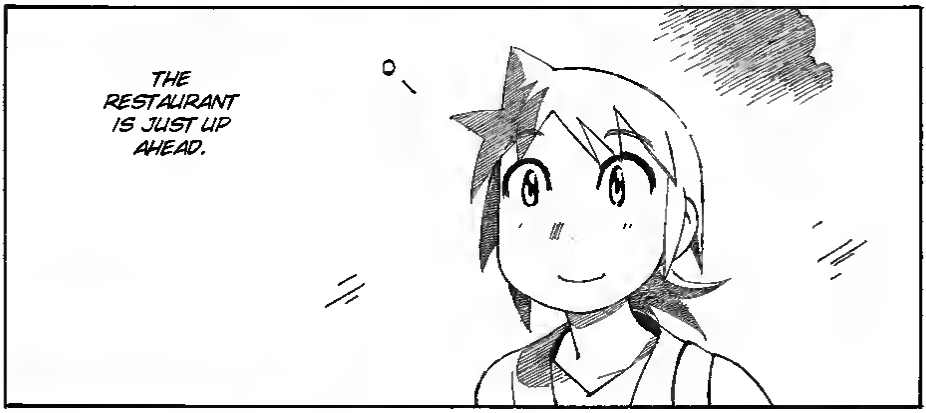
9


SHINING IN THE SUNLIGHT, IT INSTEAD LOOKS RATHER CHARMING.
AND THE LEGENDARY "YOU'LL SEE IT FOR SURE!" SCARY BUILDING.

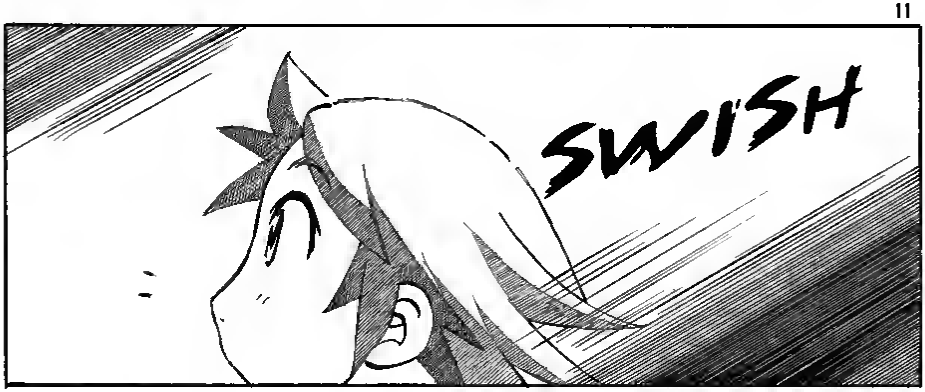
THE FAINT SMELL OF A BONFIRE DRIFTS OVER.


WISH I'D COME HERE SOONER.


BUT THEN AGAIN I'M ALREADY AT THE EXIT.

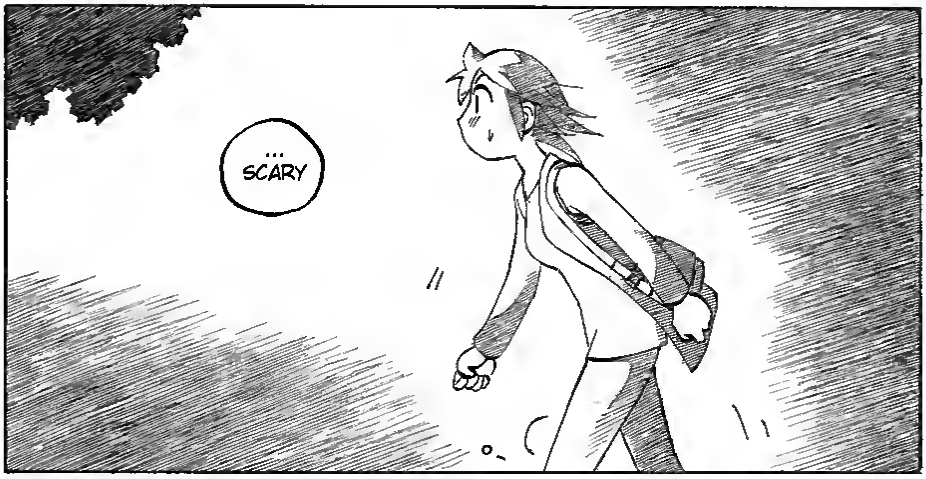

THE RESTAURANT IS JUST UP AHEAD.

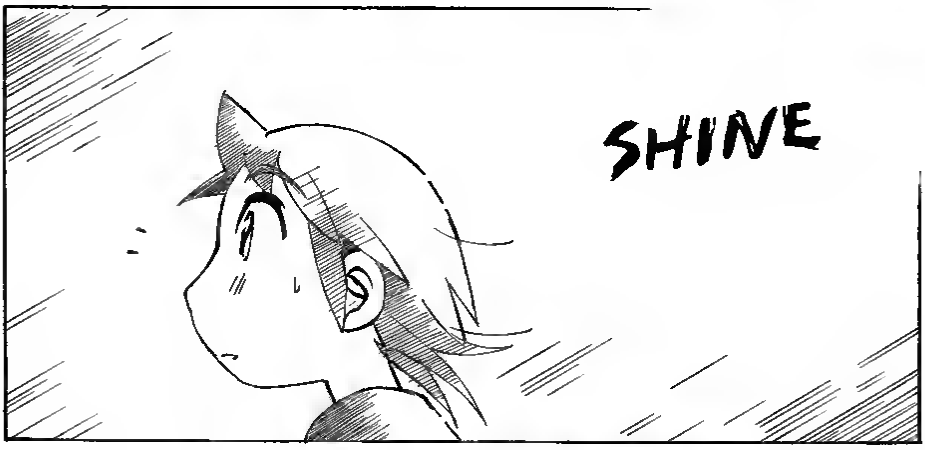
11


SWISH

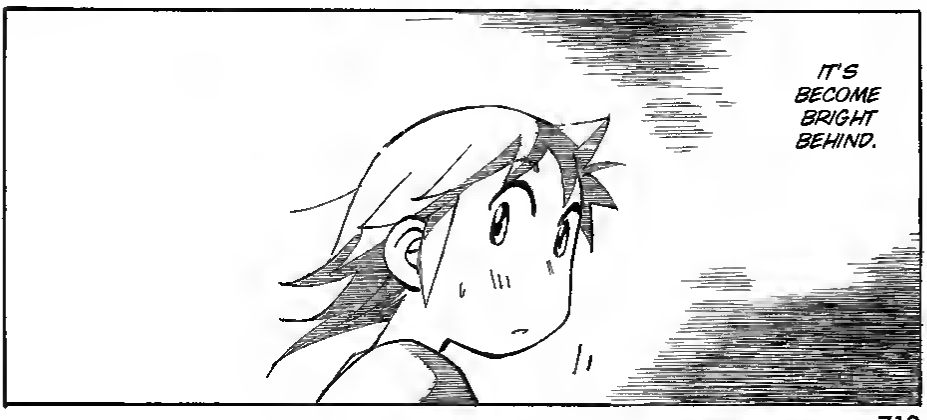
Shadows
appear

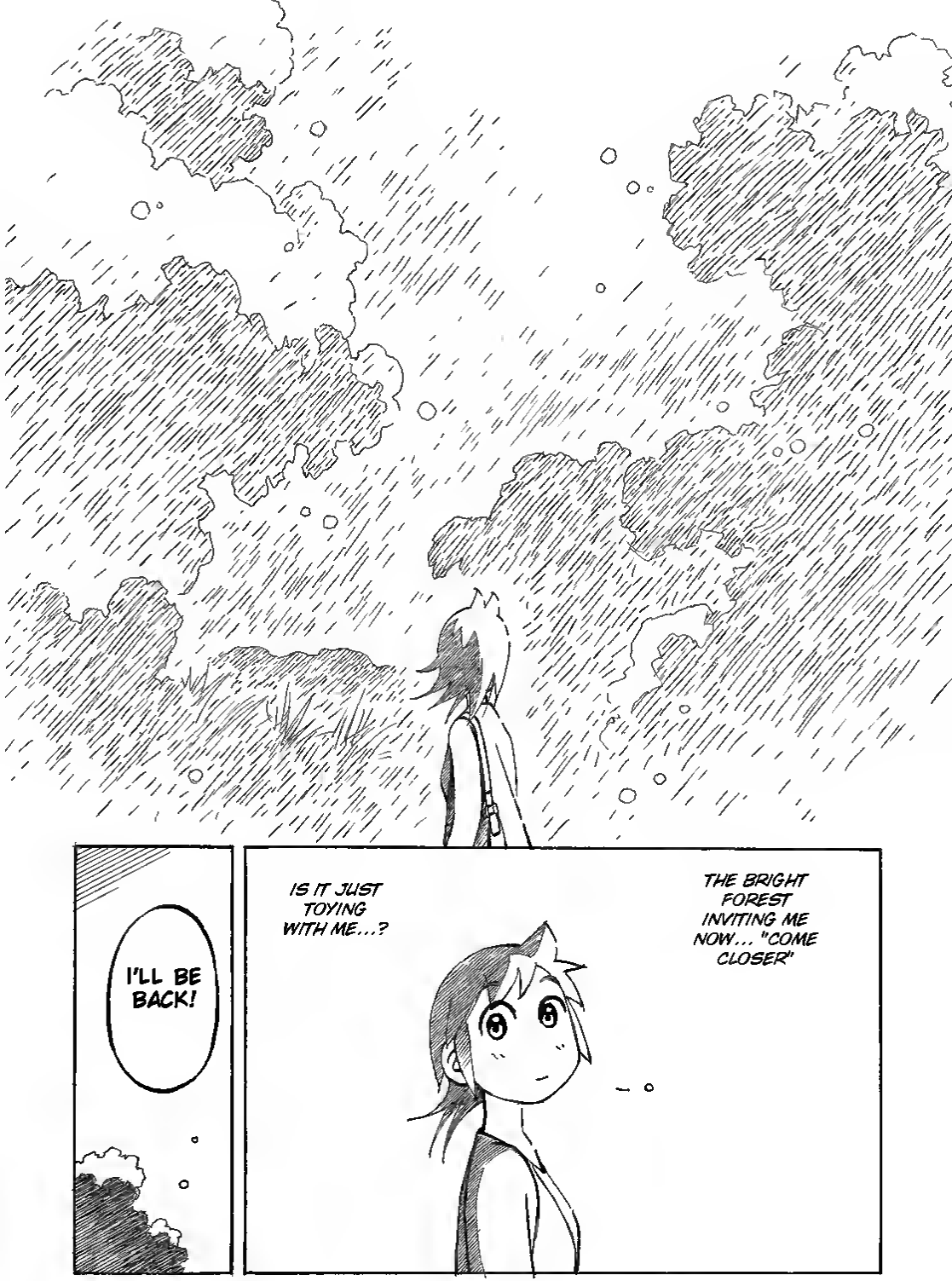
I LOOK BACK AND SEE THE INTIMIDATING GARDEN.
A DARK AND GRAVE FOREST, STRAIGHT FROM THE DEPTHS OF MY MEMORY.



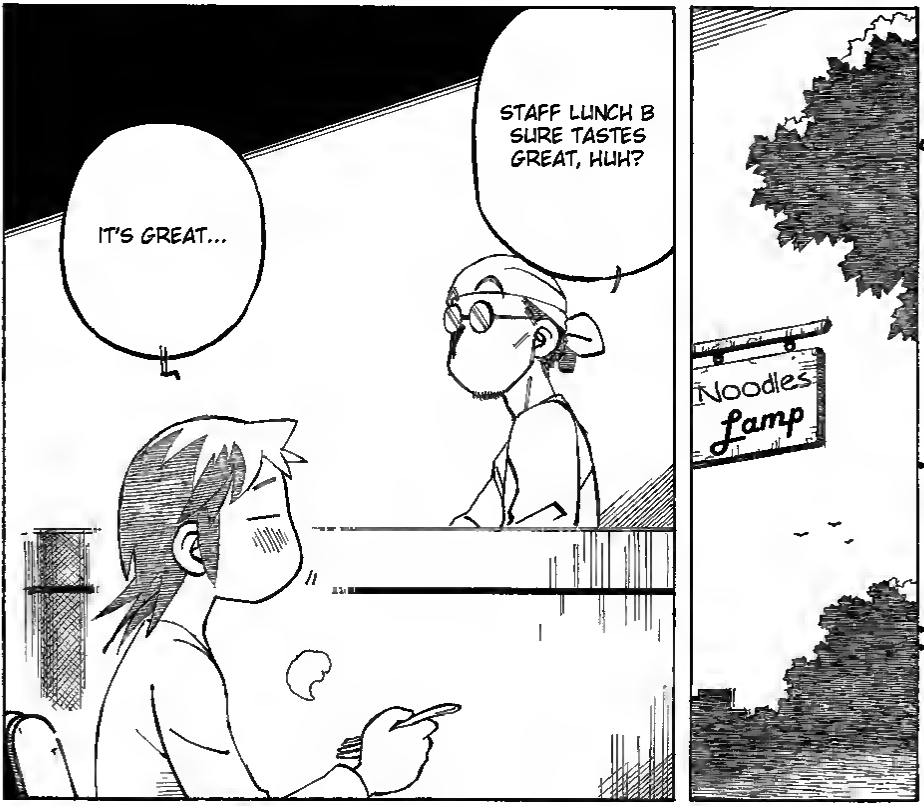


14




I'LL BE BACK!
IS IT JUST TOYING WITH ME...?
THE BRIGHT FOREST INVITING ME NOW... "COME CLOSER"

16



Eating a relaxing staff lunch at Lamp is the happiest time.

714

Hotondoba Drive route 03 end

Next time, time for a summer wardrobe!

Kotonoba Drive

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